

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00956 241144Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 A-01 SY-05  
OPR-02 OC-06 CCO-00 OMB-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 /118 W  
-----057741 241149Z /44

P 241105Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4588  
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY  
USCINCEUR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0956

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MOPS, LY, EG  
SUBJ: JULY 23 EGYPTIAN RAID ON TOBRUK

1. DESPITE OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN DENIAL OF  
10 A.M. JULY 23, EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT RAID ON TOBRUK, RELIABLE  
SOURCE FROM TURKISH EMBASSY REPORTS THAT RAID ON TOBRUK DID  
TAKE PLACE AS LIBYANS CLAIM. ACCORDING TO SOURCE, 100  
TURKISH WORKERS PRESENTLY IN TOBRUK REFUSED TO GO TO THEIR  
JOBS BECAUSE OF "IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION." TURKISH EMBASSY  
OFFICIALS HERE WERE IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH COMPANY REPS  
IN TOBRUK WHO CONFIRMED EGYPTIAN RAID. TURKISH OFFICIALS  
APPROACHED LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTRY CONCERNING SAFETY OF TURKISH  
WORKERS AND WERE REASSURED THAT EGYPTIANS WERE ONLY ATTACKING  
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"MILITARY TARGETS."

2. JULY 23 LOCAL MEDIA CLAIMS THAT DESPITE PLO  
CHAIRMAN YASIR ARAFAT MEDIATION EFFORTS, EGYPTIANS  
CONTINUE TO RAID LIBYAN TOWNS. LIBYAN MEDIA CLAIMS  
THAT IN ADDITION TO RAID UPON TOBRUK EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT  
ATTACKED THE LIBYAN TOWN OF KHUFRA. MEDIA STATES

THAT BOTH ATTACKS WERE REPULSED BY LIBYAN DEFENSE FORCES. LIBYANS ALSO CLAIM THAT EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT RAIDED THE LIBYAN VILLAGES OF BARDI, JAGHBUB, MUSA'ID AND KHUFRA "AS PART OF A LARGE AIR STRIKE TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A LAND ATTACK AGAINST LIBYA." MEDIA ASSERTS THAT IF "THIS UNJUSTIFIED AGGRESSION IS NOT STOPPED, THE JAMAHIRIYAH FORCES WILL REPLY IN FORCE IN THE EGYPTIAN HINTERLAND."

3. AS OF JULY 23 LIBYAN MILITARY SPOKESMAN CLAIMS THAT LIBYAN FORCES HAVE CAPTURED 40 EGYPTIAN SOLDIERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND DESTROYED FIVE EGYPTIAN AIRCRAFT. SURPRISINGLY, LIBYANS HAVE ADMITTED THAT THEIR AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM SHOT ONE OF THEIR OWN PLANES WHICH REPORTEDLY CRAHSED ON LIBYAN SOIL, AND LOST ANOTHER MIRAGE DUE TO "BAD VISIBILITY" WHILE IT WAS ON A RECONNAISSANCE OPERATION IN THE AREA OF SIDI-AMR.

4. EXCEPT FOR HEAVY MILITARY TRAFFIC FROM PORT AREA TO IBN NAFE (FORMER WHEELUS) AIR FORCE BASE, THERE IS LITTLE INDICATION HERE THAT EXTENSIVE CLASHES ARE TAKING PLACE APPROXIMATELY 1,000 MILES WEST OF TRIPOLI. CARLE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
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